The Strategic Role of India in G20: An Analytical Study (2008-2023)

A SYNOPSIS SUBMITTED TO

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

RANCHI UNIVERSITY

RANCHI,JHARKHAND

For the Degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

Under supervision

Dr.Saritakumari

Assistant professor

Department of political science

Marwari college, Ranchi

Submitted by

Anjali Kumari

UGC NET

2024

The Strategic Role of India in G20: An Analytical Study (2008-2023)

State of the Art

The group of 20 (G20) is an international intergovernmental forum for economic cooperation comprising the world's major economies. It was formed in 1999, in the response of Asian financial crisis of 1997.It comprises of 19 countries and the European union ,representing around 85 % of global GDP , 75% of world trade and two-thirds of the world's population.G20 has emerged as a crucial platform for global economic coordination and governance .As the world's largest economies ,G20 member countries play a significant role in shaping global economic policies and addressing key challenges.India as a major emerging economy, has actively participated in the G20 since its inceptionparticularly from 2008 to 2023. This period has witnessed India's growing influence and active participation in shaping the agenda and decisions of the G20.India has progressively amplified its role within the G20,evolving from a participant to a proactiveleader and addressing pressing international challenges.

India's engagement in the G20 is rooted in its aspirations for a more inclusive and equitable global economic system. The country's economic trajectory,marked by rapid growth andsignificant structural reforms,positions it as a vital player in global economic governance. India's G20 agenda reflects its broader development priorities, emphasizing inclusive growth, sustainabledevelopment, climateaction,digital transformation and equitable global health frameworks.Through its active participation and leadership,India not only addresses its national development priorities but also champions the concernsofother emerging economies. Within this influential group, India has

emerged as asignificant voicerepresenting theinterests and concerns of the global south,a term broadly used to describe developing and emerging economies.

India's presidency of the G20, which began on December 1,2022, and concluded on November 30,2023 marked a significant milestone in the country's global leadership. It was a pivotal moment in its journey as a global leader. By focusing on themes that resonate with the broader global community, India effectively used its presidency to address some of the most pressing issues facing the world today.

This research paper aims to analyze the role of India in G20, examining its contributions,strategies,and also assess the effectiveness of India's engagement with the G20 in promoting its interests on the global stage.

Literature Review

1. Ashriti Gautam(2022) in her paper entitled "*India and G20: Strengthening and shaping global governance''* published in "EPRA International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research (IJMR)'' provides an overview of existing academic works related to India's role in the G20. It covers the history, structure,functioning, and objectives of the G20. This article analyses India's specific priorities and explores India's core interests during its presidency of the G20. However,the paper does not provide an in-depth analysis of all the core interests that India is focusing on during its G20 presidency. It attempts to provide only a comprehensive overview of India's main interests.

2. PriyankaDubey (2023) in her paper *"G20 and its Significance: India Take Over G20 Presidency'' p*ublished in "International Journal Of Political Science And Governance'' explores the roles and responsibilities of G20 . The study also highlights the challenges that G20 faces in its efforts to promote global economic cooperation and address global challenges. This paperanalyses the India's role of

G20 presidency and how India's leadership helped to shape the G20 priorities and outcomes during a critical period for the global economy and society.3. Alok Sheel (2022) in his paper *"Evolution Of G20 and India's Upcoming Presidency '' p*ublished in the "Indian Council Of World Affairs'' traces the evolution of G20 in the light of India's forthcoming Presidency and projects G20 as a global governance grouping that successfully seeks to bridge the North –South divide .This paper explores the relationship between G7 and G20 and concludes that G20 has ostensibly replaced the G7 for steering global economic issues.This article also pointed out how the three consecutive G20 chairs viz.,Indonesia, India,and Brazil that are developing countries presents a unique opportunity to push the interests of the Global South within G20.4.Sushil Kumar (2024) in his paper *"India's G20 presidency as a voice of global south''* published in "Research and Information System For Developing Countries'' examines how India utilized its presidency of the G20 to represent and advocate for the interests of the global south. The Indian philosophy of 'VasudhaivaKutumbakam' promotes consultative, outcome –oriented, demand drivendevelopment partnerships that respect the sovereignty of partner countries, where voices of global south is India's voice, its priorities India's priorities to be implement in south drivendevelopment partnerships. The paper aims to identify key themes, and analyses the initiatives undertaken by India during its G20 presidency to advocate for the global south.

5.Kamal Malhotra (2022) in his paper *"IBSA, G20, and The Global South''* published in "Gateway House : Indian Council On Global Relations'' discusses the potential resurgence of the IBSA Forum , emphasizing its unique opportunity to play a pivotal role in south –south cooperation amidst global challenges .Until 2025 , the presidency of the G20 will be heldby the countries of the global south (Brazil in 2024 and South Africa in 2025),hence there is an opportunity toreflect the aspirations of a large number of countries that are not the members of the

G20 but are significantly impacted by its decisions. The G20 presidencies of India, Brazil, and south Africa from 2023 to 2025 can align G20 and IBSA agendas for the global south.. 6. V.Srinivas (2022) in his book entitled "*G20 @ 2023: The Roadmap To Indian Presidency'' published* in "Indian Council Of World Affairs'' highlights India's contribution to G20 and strengthening multilateralism.India is a nation that is deeply committed to multilateralism anddemocracy. Since independence, India has engaged with multilateralinstitutions,and contributed to combating the challenges of contemporary global governance. This paper highlights the key features of Riyadh summit 2020,the Rome summit 2021, and the Indonesian presidency. This paper also outlines key highlights of recent G20 summits and of India's engagement with the forum under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

7.M. Larionova (2018) in her paper *"The G20, BRICS, and APEC in the system of international institutions: A piece of good news for global governance.''* published in "International Organizations Research Journal'' examines G20/BRICS/APEC engagement with international organizations in fulfillment of their global governance functions of deliberation, direction –setting, decision making, delivery and global/regional governance development. The G20 exceeds the BRICS and APEC in terms of the number of references to international organizations, intensity and scope. It employs all three modes, engaging its key partners – the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Financial Stability Board (FSB), the Organization Of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD),the World Bank (WB), the World Trade Organization (WTO) ,and the International LabourOrganization (ILO)-mostly as a core group across the full range of global governance functions from deliberations to delivery. The BRICS consistently acts as a catalyst stimulating**,**endorsing, compelling and supporting change of the United Nations (UN), the IMF, the WB ,and the WTO and building a BRICS-

centered institutional system.APEC is a regional premier economic forum and a vehicle of Asia – Pacific engagement in global issues advances inclusive growth regionally and globally. APEC expedites integration of regional and global agendas, facilitates coordination between regional and multilateral institutions and reinforces their mutual influence. Jointly G20, BRICS and APEC contribute to more effective global policy coordination.

8.Manjeev Singh Puri & Damodar Pujari (2022) in their paper *"G20 and Climate Change: Hegemony Of Power To Global Support' '*published in "Indian Council Of World Affairs'' studied the progress of discussions on climate change within the G 20 and traced how the member states of G20 have collectively navigated the issues of adaptation , mitigation, finance and technology within the grouping .They state that Italy's Presidency of 2021 delivered the most seminal Declaration on climate change which may havea bearing on the discussions on the issue in forthcoming Presidencies . They also note that India's leadership in pushing the global climate change agenda has been very visible in UNFCCCas also in G20 in recent years.

9.Kunal Sen (2021) in his article *"India and the G20: Prospects and challenges''* examines India's role in the G20, emphasizing both the opportunities and obstacles the country faces. The paper discusses India's growing influence in global economic governance and highlights how it can leverage its G20 membership to address pressing global issues such as climate change, financial stability, and sustainable development.However, the article also outlines challenges, including geopolitical tensions, economic vulnerabilities and the need for effective diplomacy to navigate the complex dynamics of the G20.

10. Prabir De (2017) in his article *"India's role and position in the G20:An Assessment'' p*rovides an in-depth analysis of India's evolving role within the G20 framework.The author emphasizes the significance of India's active participation

in global economic governance. The article also explores how India's economic reforms and initiatives, such as 'Make in India 'and 'Digital India', align with G20 priorities and contribute to its growing influence in the forum. The article highlights the opportunities for India to lead on issues like sustainable development and digital transformation, which are becoming increasingly important on the G20 agenda.

11.Manjeet Kripalani (2022) in his book entitled*"IndiaIn The G20: Rule Taker to Rule Maker''*provides a thorough examination of India's journey within the G20 framework, transitioning from a peripheral participant to a more influential and assertive player in global governance.The book tracks India's gradual ascent in global economic and political arenas, paralleling its domestic economic growth and increasing diplomatic clout.The book also highlights India's role in advocating for a more equitable global trading system, reflecting its domestic economic priorities on the international stage. Despite the progress, Kripalani is candid about the challenges India faces, including internal economic disparities, bureaucraticinefficiencies, and the complexities of navigating global power dynamics.The book suggests that India's success in the G20 will depend on its ability to balance domestic priorities with global responsibilities, and on how it manages relations with major powers like the US, China, and the EU.
12.K.M. Raman (2021) in his *paper "India and the G20: Expectations and Implications''* examines India's role and objectives within the G20 framework, analyzing both the expectations placed in India by the international communityand the implications of its actions within this global forum.This paper discusses India's aspirations to be a leading voice in global governance through its participation in the G20. The article outlines the high expectations the global community has from India in the G20, particularly in terms of leadership on issues that affect the Global South.There is a widespread expectation for India to act as

a bridge betweendeveloped and developing countries, fostering consensus on critical global issues.This article explores how India's active participation in the G20 has implications for its domestic policies, particularly in aligning its economic andenvironmental strategies with global standards.The article examines how India's G20 commitments influence its domestic reforms, including financial regulation, infrastructure development and environmental policies.

Objectives to be Investigated

1. To analyzeIndia's role within the G20 framework.

2.To assess the impact of India's G20 presidency.

3. To evaluate India's interaction with other Multilateral forums.

4. To explore India's efforts in promoting interests of the Global South.

Problems to be Investigated

1.Assessing the extent of India's influence on the G20 agenda and decision-making processes.

2.Assessing the effectiveness of India's leadership within the G20.

3. Explore how India navigates the complexities of multilateral diplomacy, within the G20.

Hypothesis

1.India's role in the G20 has evolved from a peripheral participant to a central influencer.

2.India's presidency of the G20 has significantly enhanced its influence in global governance.

3.India has used the G20 platform to amplify the voice of the Global South, positioning itself as a bridge between developed and developing nations.

4. India has effectively navigated multilateral diplomacy within the G20 by leveraging its strategic partnerships.

Research design and Methodology

Mixed Method Approach – This study will integrate both qualitative and quantitative methods, complemented by discourse analysis to provide a comprehensive analysis of India's role in the G20.

Tools to be used in data collection

This proposed research will utilize both Primary Data as well as Secondary data to formulate its outcome.

1. **Primary Data** collection will be approached through semi –structured interviews with the experts in this field.

2. **Secondary Data** will be used to collect various data of government records like official G20 documents, India's position papers, Policy documents, academic literature, open sources, books and media reports**.**

Significance of the study

This research is significant as it provides a detailed analysis of India's evolving role in global governance through the G20. The research will provide a comprehensive analysis of how India, as an emerging global power, navigates the complexities of multilateral diplomacy, within the G20. It will offer insights into India's strategies,priorities, and influence on global economic and political agendas.By examining India's role in the G20, the study will contribute to the broader field of global governance, highlighting the role of emerging economies in shaping

international policies and practices. This is particularly important as the global power structure evolves with the increasing influence of countries like India.

Research gap

A significant amount of research has been done on India's initial role in the G20, however there is limited analysis of how its influence has evolved over time, particularly in shaping global economic and political agendas from 2008 to 2023.While India's advocacy for the Global South is recognized, there is limited analysis of how effectively it has represented the interests of developing countries within the G20, and how this role has evolved over the years.

Tentative chapterization

Introduction

Chapter 1: Historical background of G20.

Chapter 2: Establishment of G20, structure, functions, objectives and significance.

Chapter 3: The role of India within G20 framework in promoting its interests on the global stage.

Chapter 4: The relation of India with other multilateral forums within G20.

Chapter 5: India's G20 presidency as a voice of global south.

Future prospects.

Conclusion.

References

1.Cooper, Andrew F and Thakur, Ramesh (2012), 'The Group of Twenty (G20)

2.Cooper, A. F., & Farooq, A.B. (2016). The role of China and India in the G20 and BRICS: commonalities or competitive behavior? Journal of Current Chinese Affairs, 45(3), 73-106.

3.Centre for Policy Research (CPR): CPR is a Delhi – based think tank that conducts research on public policy issues, including India's engagement in the G20,https://www.cprindia.org/.

4.De,Prabir (2017), 'India's role and position in the G20: An Assessment'.

5.Dubey, Priyanka (2023) 'G20 and its significance: India takes over G20 presidency'. International Journal of Political Science and Governance

6. Gautam, Aashriti (2022) 'India and G20:Strengthening and shaping global governance. EPRA International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research7. Gateway House: Gateway House is a Mumbai- based think tank that focuses on international relations, including India's involvement in the G20,https://www.gatewayhouse.in/ 8.G20 Official website: The official website of the G20 provides comprehensive information about the organization, its history, goals and activities, https://www.g20.org/

9.G20 Summit : The official website of the upcoming G20 summit provides details about the host country, agenda , and outcomes of the event , https://www.g20.org/summit.html10. Hajnal, Peter .I (2014) , 'The G20:Evolution ,Interrelationships, Documentation11.“ India's challenges as it takes over the G20 presidency “Indian Express,December01,2022https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/india-g20-presidency-challenges-8279699/12. International Federation of Business Intellectuals and changemakers (IFBIC), 'India's crucial role in the G20 summit: A comprehensive analysis of all member nations

13.Kalra,Deep , ‘ India’s G20 Presidency : A Confluence of Vision , Strategy , and Inclusive Development

14.Kamraju, M &Ali, Mohd Akhtar (2023) , ‘The G20 Presidency of India in 2023 : Achievements , Challenges , and Implications’ . International Journal of Business and Management Research 11(4): 100 -107

15.Kripalani, Manjeet (2022), ‘India in the G20: Rule-taker to Rule- maker

16. Kumar, Dr. Arvind (2022). India’s G20 Presidency: Challenges and Opportunities. Focus Global Reporter. 17. Kumar, Sushil (2024) ‘India’s G20 Presidency as a voice of global south’. Research and Information System for Developing Countries

18.Larionova, M (2018),‘The G20, BRICS and APEC in the system of international institutions: A piece of good news for global governance. International Organizations Research Journal

19.Malhotra, Kamal (2022), ‘IBSA, G20, and The Global South’. Gateway House: Indian Council on Global Relations

20. Ministry of External Affairs, Government Of India: The official website of the Ministry of External Affairs of India offers information about India’s participation in the G20, policy positions, and statements, https://mea.gov.in/

21. Ministry of Finance, Government of India: The official website of Ministry of Finance offers information about India’s economic policies, fiscal measures, and engagement with the G20 on financial matters, website:https://www.finmin.nic.in/

22.Passi, Ritika (2022).Purpose,Platform, and Power: Advancing trade under India’s G20 Presidency. Observer Research Foundation (ORF)

23. Prime Minister's Office, Government ofIndia: The official website of the Prime Minister's Office provides updates on India's engagements with international organizations, including the G20, website: https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/

24. Puri, Manjeev Singh and Pujari Damodar (2022), 'G20 and climate change: Hegemony of power to global support'. Indian Council of World Affairs

25. Reddy,Dr. Ramchandra (2023), 'India's role in the G20: How it can contribute to global economic growth and stability'. Times of India, March 27
26. Sen, Kunal (2021),'India and the G20: Prospects and Challenges'.. 27.Sheel, Ashok (2022),'Evolutionof The G20 and India's Upcoming Presidency'. Indian Council of World Affairs .
28.Sodawala, Prof Yasmeen & Rajak Payal (2023),'Assessing the effects of G20 on India's economy landscape'. International Journal of Advanced Research in Science, Communication and Technology (IJARSCT) Volume 3, issue 6, January 2023.29. Srinivas, V (2022) 'G20@2023: The roadmap to Indian presidency'. Indian council of world affairs30. Think Tanks and Research Institutes: Observer Research Foundation (ORF): ORF is an Indian think tank that conducts research on a wide range of topics, including India's role in the G20, https://www.orfonline.org/